(c) Adequate steps were taken to protect the plant in the wake of the flood alert situation. All the 5 radial gates on the dam were kept open and the pondage of the dam was kept to its natural flow. Water level in the dam pondage area was kept at lowest level of EL 1462 for absorbing heavy flood. All the Intake Gates of the 27.4 km long Head Race Tunnel were closed. All the six Draft Tube Gates were closed, all the gates at Tail Race Tunnel out fall were closed and all the six machines were shutdown.

(d) After ascertaining the factual position of the artificial lake on river Pareechu from various sources, the power production was re-started with effect from 17.08.2004 and gradually raised to the optimum level.

Proposal to fund hydro-power projects of State Governments

1384. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to fund hydro-power projects launched by State Governments;

(b) if so, whether Government has received any proposal from Andhra Pradesh Government for specific financial help in a hydro power plant;

(c) if so, the details of this proposal;

(d) whether Government propose to give a boost to the generation of hydro-power by participating in joint ventures with various States; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) Power Finance Corporation (PFC) and Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) are extending loan assistance to A.P. GENCO Ltd. for taking new Hydro Projects and renovation and modernization of existing Hydro Projects.

(b) and (c) The APGENCO have posed the 50 MW Nagarjuna SagarTail Pond Project to REC for funding assistance amounting to about Rs. 400 crores (90% of the project cost). Similarly, a proposal for extending

guarantee assistance to cover re-payments on behalf of Irrigation and CAD Department of Government of Andhra Pradesh to Government of Austria for establishment of 8x40 MW Dummugudem Hydro-electric Power Project on Godavari River has been received by the Power Finance Corporation. PFC has already communicated its in-principle acceptance in October, 2004 for guarantee assistance of 85% of the project cost subject to CEA clearance, RBI approval and detailed appraisal of the project.

Recently, a proposal has been received in REC for assistance of Rs. 17.36 crores (90% of the project cost of Rs. 19.30 crores) to install 4th Unit in Pochampad Power House.

(d) and (e) To boost the development of hydro power, Government of India has already constituted joint ventures with State Governments namely,

(i) Tehri Hydro Development Corporation (THDC) — Joint Venture of Government of India and Government of Uttar Pradesh for implementation of the Tehri Stage-I Hydro Electric Project (1000 MW) and Koteshwar Hydro Electric Project (400 MW); and

(ii) Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam Limited (SJVNL) a joint venture of Government of India and Government of Himachal Pradesh for implementation of the 1500 MW Nathpa Jhakri HE Project. Rampur Hydro Electric Project (400 MW) in Himachal Pradesh has also recently been entrusted to SJVNL for implementation and two other schemes *viz.* Luhri Hydro Electric Project and Khab Hydro Electric Project are also proposed for implementation by SJVNL.

Further, NHPC has formed a joint venture with Government of Madhya Pradesh namely Narmada Hydro Development Corporation (NHDC) implementation of Indira Sagar Hydro Electric Project (1000 MW) and Omkareshwar Hydro Electric Project (560 MW).